

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-03 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 PA-01 PRS-01

CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 USIA-06 A-01 PER-01 DHA-02

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R 251120Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0191

C O N F I D E N T I A L NEW DELHI 10035

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, IN, US

SUBJECT: VOA CORRESPONDENT GUIDELINES

REF: STATE 175590

1. CONCUR IN MAJOR POINTS REFTEL INSTRUCTIONS. AT THIS POINT WE WILL WAIT AND SEE HOW THE GOI PLANS TO DEAL WITH VOA, WHICH OFFICIALS HAVE ACKNOWLEDGED HAS UNIQUE STATUS WHICH WE HAVE BEEN TOLD IS BEING ASSESSED AT THIS TIME BY GOVT, WITH VIEW TO INFORMING US OF GOI'S POSITION (NEW DELHI 9989). IN THE MEANTIME, VOA CORRESPONDENT MILLER WILL REPORT WITHOUT OBSERVING LIMITATION IN GOI CENSORSHIP GUIDELINES.

2. WE ARE MAINTAINING A LOW PROFILE FOR VOA LOCAL EMPLOYEE HARI KAPOOR. IF SITUATION BECOMES MORE DIFFICULT FOR HIM, USIS NEW DELHI WOULD PREFER TO SHIFT HIM FROM VOA WORK INTO A USIS LOCAL POSITION RATHER THAN PLACE HIM ON EITHER ADMINISTRATIVE LEAVE OR SEND HIM ON TDY TO WASHINGTON. WE ARE CONCERNED THAT ADMINISTRATIVE LEAVE, BY PUTTING GREATER DISTANCE BETWEEN USIS AND KAPOOR, MIGHT ACTUALLY INCREASE HIS VULNERABILITY LOCALLY. WE WILL HOLD OPEN THE POSSIBILITY OF TDY, ALTHOUGH IF PRESSURE IS SO HEAVY ON KAPOOR AS TO WARRANT THINKING IN THOSE TERMS, IT IS UNCERTAIN WHETHER GOI WOULD ALLOW HIM TO DEPART INDIA.

3. SHOULD CONTINGENCY NOTED IN PARAS 2 AND 3 OF REFTEL ARISE,
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IN THE INTEREST OF ACCURACY (SINCE MILLER HAS ON NUMEROUS

OCCASIONS IN PAST FOUR WEEKS SUBMITTED HIS COPY TO CENSOR AND
THIS HAS BEEN NOTED IN VOA BROADCASTS), WE SUGGEST ANY STATEMENT
ISSUED IN WASHINGTON CONCLUDE WITH FOLLOWING ALTERNATIVE TO
LAST SENTNCE PARA 3 REFTEL: "AS A MATTER OF PRINCIPLE, THE VOA
CANNOT FUNCTION WITHIN THE GUIDLELINES ESTABLISHED UNDER THESE
CENSORSHIP REGULATIONS."
SAXBE

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Message Attributes

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To: STATE
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